



“THE LINC”

Your connection to the news, decisions, and services from City Hall.

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City of Lincoln Holidays

City Hall will be closed over the course of the next two months in observance of the following holidays:

Christmas

December 25

New Years Day

January 1

If you need to pay a sewer bill during that period, feel free to use our drop box locations on Kickapoo or McLean Streets.

We hope that you and your families all have a wonderful holiday season!

City Hall Phone: (217) 735-2815

www.lincoln.il.gov

CITY LAUNCHES NEW ‘RUMOR PAGE’

As a means to promote an accurate and positive discourse about the community, the City of Lincoln has created a “Rumors Page” on its website. The purpose of the page is to better inform residents about City policies, decisions, or other news. Announced at the November 16th City Council meeting, the page launched Monday as another outreach initiative of the City to better engage the public along with this newsletter and a greater social media presence.

“It is extremely difficult to neatly explain many of the

problems that the City Council faces. We often have to deal with really big problems which means that the solutions are often very complex,” said Mayor Marty Neitzel. She continued, “We just want to make sure everyone has the facts before there is a rush to judgment.”

The page is not intended to be a forum for back-and-forth banter. When an issue gets mentioned in a public forum or brought up to aldermen or city staff with incorrect information, the Rumors Page will present the facts, offer an explanation to why a decision was made, and allow the reader to come to a conclusion on their own.

“I believe the City Council wants our residents to have an informed discussion about City topics,” said Alderman Todd Mourning. “A thoughtful debate with the correct information is only going to enhance the engagement of our citizenry and help us to grow our community.”

To access the City of Lincoln’s Rumors Page, start by going to www.lincoln.il.gov and find the “Services” tab. Using the drop down menu, click the title, “Rumors Page.”

CITY ADOPTS NO PARKING ON SNOW ROUTES

Last year, the City Council adopted a Snow and Ice Control Plan to better organize how the City prepares and executes operations related to Snow removal.

Each year prior to the “snowfall season” the City evaluates its equipment and procedures, and staff then discusses ways to make snow and ice removal operations more effective and efficient. Moving into this season, the overwhelming recommendation was the difficulty of snow plows to

navigate narrow boulevards and streets with considerable on-street parking. Cars along narrow roadways make snow removal difficult as crews must swerve to miss parked vehicles which also leaves areas of the street untouched.

To address this problem, the Street Department has recommended the following streets be considered “No Parking” in snow events of more than two inches:

- **Lincoln Ave.** from College to N. Union;

- **Park Place** from N. Union to N. Elm;
- **North Side of Pulaski St.** between S. Ladue and S. Sherman;
- **Southgate** from N. Kickapoo to Bond;
- **Wyatt Ave.** from Railer Way to S. McLean.

Violators of the No Parking Zone may be fined \$75 per occurrence or be towed. For the full Snow and Ice Plan please go to www.lincoln.il.gov and view the Snow and Ice Control Plan via our homepage.

NEW FIREARMS TAKE BACK PROGRAM

Every year the Lincoln Police Department responds to burglary reports where firearms have been stolen. Some of these firearms have ended up in the hands of gang members in Chicago, Champaign, and other larger cities and in some cases used in violent crimes.

Often when the firearms are stolen they are not locked up, in a cabinet with a glass window, or otherwise easily accessible. The Lincoln Police would like to urge our residents to please secure your firearms in a locked safe which is bolted or

otherwise secured permanently in your residence. You can still have easy access to your firearms in an emergency with biometric systems now for gun safes. Having a good safe gives the gun owner the peace of mind that their firearm will not be stolen and used in a violent crime.

Also, in an effort to reduce the number of firearms that could be used for unlawful purposes the Lincoln Police Department offers a new Firearm Take Back Program. If you have a firearm in your home that may be from a

family member or relative that passed away and you no longer want it in your home you can contact the Police Department and have an officer pick it up. These firearms will be used for departmental purposes, disassembled, or otherwise destroyed.

Please consider surrendering any firearms in your possession that you no longer need or want. Call [217-732-2151](tel:217-732-2151) to schedule a pickup. You will not be obligated to give your name. For further details see www.lincoln.il.gov.

*If you have a firearm
in your home and
want it disposed
safely and properly
call the Lincoln
Police Department
at 217-732-2151.*

HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

Fire Starters

Holidays and candles go together like children and toys.

Twelve percent of home candle fires occur in December, according to a report issued in 2013 by the National Fire Protection Association. Increased use of candles combined with an increase in the amount of combustible, seasonal decorations present in many homes means more risk for fire. The top three days for home-candle fires were Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

About 2,200 deaths were caused by fires, burns and other fire-related injuries in 2013, according to Injury Facts 2015, a statistical report on unintentional injuries and death produced by the National Safety Council.

To prevent fire in your home:

- Never leave burning candles unattended; blow them out when you leave a room
- Keep candles out of reach of children
- Never sleep in a room with a lit candle and extinguish all candles before going to sleep
- Make sure candles are on stable surfaces, where they can't easily be knocked over
- Don't burn candles near trees, curtains or any other flammable items
- Don't burn trees, wreaths or wrapping paper in the fireplace
- The Chimney Safety Institute of America recommends checking and cleaning the chimney and fireplace area at least once a year

It's Better to Give ... Safely

We've all heard it's important when choosing toys for infants or small children to avoid small parts that can be pulled or broken off and might prove to be a choking hazard. Here are some additional gift-related safety tips you might not have heard about:

- Select gifts for older adults that are not heavy or awkward to handle
- Be aware of dangers associated with coin lithium batteries; of particular concern is the ingestion of button batteries
- For answers to more of your holiday toy safety questions, check out this Consumer Product Safety Commission blog
- See which toys have been recalled

Via National Safety Council

Mayor Marty's Office Hours at City Hall:

**Tuesdays: 2-4PM
Thursdays: 2-4PM**

Have a question of the new mayor, or just want to stop by and say, "Hello!"? Mayor Marty Neitzel has established office hours from 2-4PM every Tuesday and Thursday where she is available for walk-ins or appointments. You're welcome to stop by!